

REMARKS

Claims 21-34 are pending in this application.

Applicants' undersigned representative appreciates the Examiner's courtesy extended during the telephonic interview conducted on October 25, 2006. During this interview, the *Nosaki et al.* reference was discussed relative to the claimed subject matter, but no agreement regarding allowable subject matter was reached.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 21-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Nosaki et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,673,373). As will be explained in more detail below, the *Nosaki et al.* reference does not disclose each and every feature of independent claims 21 and 28.

Independent claim 21 defines a print system that includes, among other features, a selective deleter. The selective deleter deletes the printing job data from the auxiliary memory device after the printing operation is completed if the judging portion of the print system judges that the printing job involves confidential printing. The selective deleter will delete the printing job from the auxiliary memory device even when the set portion of the print system is set to hold the printing job data in the auxiliary memory device after the print job is completed.

Independent claim 28 defines a method for controlling a print system that includes, among other operations, deleting printing job data from the auxiliary memory device after the printing operation is completed if it is judged that the printing job involves confidential printing. The deleting of the print job data will occur even when the set portion of the print system is set to hold the printing job data in the auxiliary memory device after the print job is completed.

In support of the anticipation rejection, the Examiner asserts that column 11, line 52, to column 12, line 9, and Figures 19 and 25 of the *Nosaki et al.* reference disclose the deletion

of confidential print jobs as in the claimed subject matter. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's characterization of the *Nosaki et al.* reference relative to the claimed subject matter.

The *Nosaki et al.* reference does not disclose the deletion of confidential print jobs as in the claimed subject matter. Instead, as shown in Figure 19, if it is determined that a print job is a "secret print," then "the file server 3 is informed of the completion of printing of Print Job specific data." Column 11, lines 54-56. As such, the printer of *Nosaki et al.* does not delete the printing job data from the secondary memory (i.e., the auxiliary memory device) when the print job involves a secret print.

Applicants acknowledge that the *Nosaki et al.* reference discloses the deletion of completed print jobs when the memory print mode is not designated. In particular, the *Nosaki et al.* reference provides for the deletion of print job image files from the secondary memory when the memory print mode is not designated (see, e.g., Figure 19 under the entry "Is Memory Print Mode Designated?"). Thus, in the *Nosaki et al.* reference, both secret and also non-secret print job image files will be deleted when the memory print mode is not designated. As such, in the *Nosaki et al.* reference, there is no relationship between the confidentiality of the print job and deletion of the print job image file.

During the telephonic interview, the Examiner indicated that the *Nosaki et al.* reference could be considered to disclose the claimed subject matter if the reference discloses that the memory print mode is designated for all confidential print jobs. In response, Applicants' undersigned representative has reviewed the *Nosaki et al.* reference for references to the memory print mode beyond those discussed above. The only additional references to the memory print mode located in this review were found in column 9, lines 24 and 25, and in Figure 29. Specifically, in connection with the image rasterizing process used when print data is received, the *Nosaki et al.* reference states "if there is no empty area in a file, it is

checked if the memory print mode has been designated. When the memory print mode has been designated, the clearing process of the hard disk as the secondary memory is executed and when the memory print mode was not designated, the print process begins." Column 9, lines 23-28. This statement does not establish that the *Nosaki et al.* reference designates the memory print mode for all confidential print jobs. As such, the *Nosaki et al.* reference does not disclose the deletion of confidential print jobs as in the claimed subject matter.

Accordingly, for at least the foregoing reasons, independent claims 21 and 28 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over *Nosaki et al.* Claims 22-27, each of which ultimately depends from claim 21, and claims 29-34, each of which ultimately depends from claim 28, are likewise patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over *Nosaki et al.* for at least the same reasons set forth above regarding the applicable independent claim.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of claims 21-34, and submit that these claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 749-6902. If any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. KYWAP004).

Respectfully submitted,
MARTINE PENILLA & GENCARELLA, L.L.P.



Peter B. Martine
Reg. No. 32,043

710 Lakeway Drive, Suite 200
Sunnyvale, California 94085
Customer Number 25920